MEMO

TO: Local Public Health Agency Administrators

FROM: Bruce Clements, Director, Center for Emergency Response & Terrorism

SUBJECT: New On-Line Safe Schools Planning Tool available to Local Public Health
                 Agencies

DATE: September 26, 2006

This year the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services contracted with the Missouri School Boards Association to provide all schools in the state (public and private) a secure on-line planning tool to assist with health-related emergencies. This planning tool is also available to local public health agencies to assist with their planning efforts, including pandemic influenza planning.

The Public Health Emergency Planning System for Schools features:
- A comprehensive public health emergency plan development application with development tutorials;
- A Pandemic Flu Planning Guide and resource center *(coming soon)*
- E-learning courses and online library; and
- An online portal to provide public health and public safety agencies access to school emergency response plans and incident management data, such as floor plans and digital imagery.

To learn more about the planning tool, simply go to the Public Health Planning for Schools site (https://dhss.safeplans.net) and click on the "Overview" link.   In the next several weeks, local public health agency administrators and planners will receive log-in information for "read-only" access to school districts in your area.

If you wish to expedite the registration process, please contact your local school district(s) as the district has the ability to create new accounts. If you would like to find out who the plan administrator is for the school districts in your county or have additional questions, please send an e-mail to dhss@safeplans.net.

You may want to encourage school districts in your county to utilize the free Internet-based system for public health emergency preparedness. The system is offered at no cost to all Missouri's schools and local public health agencies.   Fire and police departments may also receive "read-only" access to this system.

www.dhss.mo.gov

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